CHAPTER II: THE COCKROACH CAT

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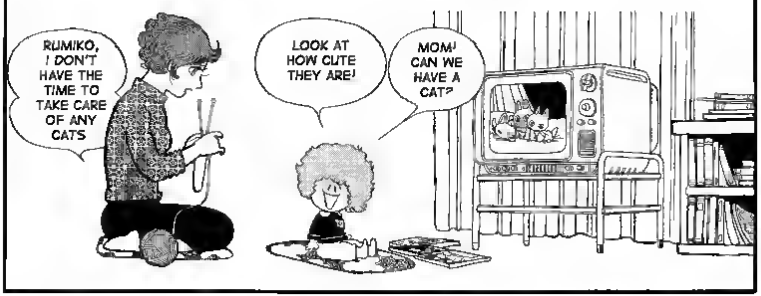

AH!
I DON'T HAVE ANY FOOD FOR YOU
WHAT ARE YOU WHINING ABOUT?
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GO AHEAD AND TAKE IT BACK
I'M SORRY WE STOLE YOUR BABY AWAY
THIS MUST HAVE BEEN RUMIKO'S IDEA
MY OH MY
THEY CAME HERE BECAUSE OF YOU!
NO, I DID NOT!
MOM! YOU BROUGHT SOME MORE?
WHAT IN THE...
WHAT ARE YOU DOING BACK HERE?
THOUGHT YOU'D BRING THE WHOLE FAMILY?
LIVING IN THAT CRAWL SPACE!
WE'RE NOT GOING TO HAVE THE WHOLE FAMILY

HEY, LOOK AT THIS LITTLE GUY I FOUND OUTSIDE
IT'S THERE BECAUSE I PUT IT THERE!
MOM! LOOK AT THIS LITTLE KITTEN I FOUND OUTSIDE!
DON'T YOU DARE START SULKING I TOLD YOU NO PETS!
THEY SAY SUSUMU HANI HAS TEN PET CATS."
THIS ONE LOOKS LIKE DAD!
THEY'RE NOT CUTE BUT THEY'RE STILL LOVEABLE. DON'T YOU THINK?
WE ARE NOT GOING TO BE KEEPING THOSE DIRTY LOOKING CATS IN OUR HOUSE!
*JAPANESE MOVIE DIRECTOR (1928-)
RUMIKO'S SKETCHING THEM SO INTENTLY
MOM! LOOK! I MADE A 100 ON IN WRITING TODAY. I WROTE THIS ONE ABOUT OUR CATS
WHO DO YOU THINK WOULD TAKE CARE OF ALL OF THEM? NOT YOU! I WOULD!!
WE SHOULD GET SOME DOGS AND A TANUKI. MAYBE EVEN A BEAR. WE COULD START OUR OWN OSAMU RANCH IN THE BACKYARD!
SEE THERE'S A PLUS SIDE TOO!
I THINK THE KIDS BENEFIT FROM THEM

MAKOTO AND RUMIKO WATCH YOU ALL THE TIME, YOU KNOW
TRY AND SET A GOOD EXAMPLE
DO THAT AND YOU CAN STAY
ALL RIGHT YOU BE A GOOD INFLUENCE ON THE KIDS
(FART)
YOU NEED TO CLEAN YOUR FACE BETTER TOO
AND LOOK HOW MESSY YOU ARE
YOU ARE A BAD DADDY!
THAT IS EXACTLY WHAT I DON'T WANT YOU TO DO!
...YOU'RE NOT FEMALE...
YOU MUST HAVE YOUR HANDS FULL WITH A HUSBAND LIKE THAT
I'M SURE THERE'S SOME STORY BEHIND IT
BUT HOW DID THEY HAVE FIVE CHILDREN?
BAY PARENT-ING
WHERE IS THE MOTHER IN THAT FAMILY?
I'M SHOCKED
JUST WHAT IS GOING ON HERE?

DO NOT LET MAKO AND RUMI FIND OUT
NO
WE CAN CALL THEM ADAM AND STEVE OR SOMETHING
I'M SURE THERE'S SOME EXPLANATION
LET'S JUST TAKE CARE OF THEM LIKE WE HAVE UNTIL NOW
IT IS A PRETTY UNHEARD OF SITUATION
HOMOSEXUAL CATS?
I JUST CAN'T BELIEVE IT
MEOW
MAKE SURE YOU KEEP AS CLEAN AS THOSE KITTENS
THAT'S HOW SHE KEEPS HER BABIES CLEAN, RUMIKO
MOMMY THIS CAT JUST GOES LICKY-LICK ALL THE TIME
THIS ONE ISN'T CLEAN AT ALL
ISN'T THAT A NICE MOMMY CAT, RUMIKO?
SHE LICKS EVERY INCH OF THEM SO THEY'RE ALWAYS NICE AND CLEAN
MOMMY SHE'S EVEN LICKING THEIR BUTTS!
DADDIES ALWAYS MAKE A MESS
JUST LIKE OUR DADDY
THEY JUST FART A LOT
AND THEY DON'T HELP WITH CHILDREN
WHAT A DIRTY CAT
(FART)
EWW WHAT'S ON YOUR PAWS?
THE DUMB DADDY CAT
POO-POO?

HE DESERVES IT HE REALLY DOES EAT COCKROACHES!
HEY CUT IT OUT WITH THE NAMES
LET'S CALL HIM THE COCKROACH CAT
SHOO!!
I START TO FEEL EMBARRASSED LOOKING AT YOU
HEY PAL.. LISTEN I THINK YOU COULD, YOU KNOW, ACT MORE MANLY FOR ME?
WELL, MAYBE WE OUGHT TO GO HAVE HIM NEUTERED
HE'S JUST A LITTLE FRUSTRATED
I'M GOING TO GIVE HIS NAILS A CLIPPING
DON'T DO THAT! THAT'S WHAT MAKES HIM A CAT!!
I HAVE TO! HE'S SCRATCHING ALL OVER THE PLACE!!
DID YOU HEAR THAT? NEUTERED! ARE YOU JUST GOING TO STAND FOR THAT?
WHAT'S THE MATTER NOW?
CAN'T GET DOWN? GOOD GRIEF..

SEEMS LIKE THEY LIKE THAT CAT THE BEST... HA
I'LL NEVER UNDERSTAND THOSE TWO
WHY?!
NO WAY!
I'M ALL RIGHT WITH KEEPING THE REST OF THE CATS BUT I WANT THAT FILTHY DAD CAT OUT
YEAH! NO WAY!!
STOP FARTING !!
(FA-RT)
NO...
THINK THEY FOUND A RAT?
SOUNDS LIKE THE CATS ARE GOING AT IT
THERE'S SOMETHING GOING ON IN THE KITCHEN
TETSU, WAKE UP
THEY'RE GETTING AWAY...
THE WHOLE FAMILY!
WHAT ABOUT THE DADDY CAT?
THIS TILE'S LOOSE. THIS IS HOW THEY GOT IN AND OUT...
ANOTHER CAT?

HE'S BEEN BITTEN IN THE NECK
AH!!!
WHERE ARE YOU?
HEY, DADDY-O
THEN SHE FLED WITH HER FAMILY
THAT BLACK CAT MUST'VE BEEN THE REAL MOTHER CAT. SHE'D BEEN SEARCHING FOR HER HUSBAND AND CHILDREN. SHE MUST'VE BEEN FURIOUS TO FIND ANOTHER MAN IN THE PICTURE. THAT'S PROBABLY WHAT CAUSED HER TO ATTACK THE DADDY CAT HERE!
MUST HAVE SOMETHING TO DO WITH THAT CAT THAT JUST CAME IN.
HE LOOKS IN BAD SHAPE. WHAT HAPPENED?!
I'LL BURY HIM.
HURRY TO BED.
IT'S TOO LATE FOR YOU BOTH NOW
BOO!
WHAT? NOT NOW!!
MOM. WERE BOTH OUR CATS DADDY CATS?
NOT SOME DAYTIME TALK SHOW FAMILY!!
THEY'RE CATS
THIS ONE'S FOR ALL THE LAZY, HOPELESS MEN IN THE WORLD
DIDN'T THINK I'D EVER USE THIS ON A CAT.